

2008 Vol. 2

... AND JUSTICE FOR ALL



MISSION

It is the mission of the District Attorney's Office to represent the people of District 18, to help provide a safer community for all, to hold offenders accountable for their crimes and to insure that no victim is left behind. We will uphold the law and Constitutions of the State of Oklahoma and the United States.

Assistant
District
Attorney's
Pittsburg

Richard L. Hull
Mike Miller
Wade Dodson
Lisa Birdwell

Haskell

Russell Tacheira

J.B. Miller



District Attorney Pittsburg & Haskell County

Jury finds man competent to stand trial:



On April 29, 2008 after deliberating for approximately 50 minutes a Pittsburg County jury found Clint Baker competent to stand trial for the murder of Todd Rich. Clint Baker was charged in the District Court of Pittsburg County on March 17, 2007 with Murder in the First Degree. Mr. Baker's jury trial is scheduled on the August 2008 Jury Docket.



On April 14, 2008 Pittsburg County Drug Court conducted its first graduation. Seven people who were facing years and years in prison because of drug charges successfully completed the 18-24 month program and have started a new life without drugs.

Pittsburg County: On May 27, 2008 the District Attorney's Office received notice that Franklin Gibbs' appeal was denied and that the verdict of Life without Parole was upheld by the Court of Criminal Appeals.



Pittsburg County: On May 1, 2008 a jury decided that an Oklahoma State Penitentiary inmate, Garry Thomas Allen, is sane and can be executed. In November of 1986 Garry Allen committed the crime of murder in the first degree in Oklahoma City. Garry Allen gunned down his girlfriend outside of a daycare center, just four days after she had moved out of his home with their two children. Allen was hiding in an alley when officers responded to the 911 call. Allen struggled with the officer and attempted to take control of the officers weapon. The officer shot Allen in the face. Allen remained hospitalized for approximately two months. Allen entered a blind plea of guilty before the Judge and was sentenced to Death. After exhausting his appeals Allen was scheduled for execution in 2005. The allegation that Allen had "become insane" was raised and a stay of execution had been ordered. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections will now re-set his execution date.

Crime Victims Compensation

The purpose of the Crime Victims Compensation Act is to provide a method of compensation for victims of violent crime. All funds come from federal and state offenders through fines and penalty assessments. An arrest of the offender does NOT have to take place in order to be eligible to file a claim; however, the victim and/or claimant is expected to fully cooperate in the apprehension, investigation, and prosecution of the perpetrator. The claimant is also expected to fully cooperate with the District Attorney's Office and Victims Compensation Board staff during the processing of the claim.

For more information on Victims Compensation or to print out an Official claim for visit this website:

http://www.ok.gov/dac/Victims_Services/Victims_Compensation_Program/index.html

IN THE OFFICE



Four staff members of the District 18 District Attorney's Office have been recognized this year for their outstanding service to their community.

Brenda Kelley-Fields was honored this year by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Board for actions taken when a child was severely injured in a collision at a McAlester Football game. Brenda worked as a McAlester Campus Police Officer and has dedicated her career to helping the youth in our community. Brenda is an Investigator for the District Attorneys Office and is the Assistant Director of the DA's probation and supervision division.

Amber Suter was honored with the Governor's Commendation for her service to victims of crime. Amber is the Victim Witness Coordinator for Pittsburg and Haskell Counties. She spends many hours working with victims of crime and assisting them with services available to them. She also helps coordinate the attendance of witnesses to all hearings and trials. She was honored with the Governor's Commendation for her commitment and dedication to helping victims. She has worked for the District Attorney's Office for nine years.

Donna Ford was also honored with the Governor's Commendation for her commitment and dedication to victims. Donna and Amber were two of only four people in the State recognized by the Governor for this award this year. Donna is the Office Manager for the District Attorney's Office and Assistant Victim Witness Coordinator. Donna assists with overall management of all cases filed in the District Attorney's Office and makes sure that witnesses and victims are informed of court matters and manages the restitution files for victims. Donna has worked for the District Attorney's Office for eight years.

Jessica Gilliam was honored as a Friend of Child Advocacy by the Pittsburg County Child Advocacy Board. Jessica is an investigator for the District Attorney's Office and is the Director of the Probation Supervision Division. Jessica has attended numerous education programs relating to the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and works tirelessly to protect children from abuse. She formerly was employed by the McAlester Campus Police and has worked for the District Attorney's Office for three years.

This will be the new courthouse, once it has been renovated, The District Attorney's Office will no longer be inside the courthouse but in the building below.



We have moved!

District Attorney, **Jim B. Miller**; Finance Director, **Jerri Davis** and Office Manager, **Donna Ford** attended a Conference on Office Administration, May 18-22, 2008 in Marco Island, FL. New computer programs and management ideas are forthcoming because of the excellent information gathered there.

The Pittsburg County District Attorney's Office along with the Pittsburg County Court Clerk and Judges have moved into the "temporary" courthouse located across the street from the current courthouse.

The new address is 122 East Carl Albert Parkway, McAlester, Oklahoma.

The District Attorney's Office is located in the basement of the building. The entrance to the District Attorney's Office is located in the alley on the south side of the building.

District 18 Attorney's Office

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